

# The St. George Union.

"IN UNION, IS STRENGTH."

VOL. I.

ST. GEORGE, UTAH, FEB., 1881.

NO. 14.

THE  
ST. GEORGE UNION.  
PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY  
J. W. CARPENTER,  
Editor & Proprietor.

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### KICKED BY A MULE.

Bill Rollins had a mule. There was nothing  
very remarkable in the mere fact of his being the  
happy possessor of such an animal, but there was  
something peculiar about the mule. He could hit  
harder and kick higher, on the slightest provo-  
cation, than any mule on record.

One morning when Bill was riding his prop-  
erty to market, he met Harry Simms, against whom  
he had an old, but concealed grudge. He knew  
Simms to be a bragging and betting character and  
accosted him accordingly:—

'How are you, Harry? Fine morning?'

'Hearty, squire,' replied Harry. 'Fine weather.  
Nice mule that you have. Will he do to bet on?'

'Bet on? Guess he will that. I tell you Harry  
Simms, he's the best mule in this country. Paid  
\$500 for him.'

'Goodness gracious! Is that so?' ejaculated  
Harry.

'Solid truth, every word of it. Tell you confi-  
dentially, Harry, I'm taking him down for betting  
purposes. I bet he can kick a fly off from any  
man without its hurting him.'

'Now look here, squire, I am not a betting  
character, but I'll bet you something on that my-  
self.'

'Harry there is no use; don't bet, I don't want  
to win your money.'

'Don't be alarmed, squire; I'll take such bets as  
them every time.'

'Well, if you are determined to bet, I will risk  
a small stake—say \$5.'

'All right, squire, you're my man. But who'll  
he kick the fly off? There is no one here but you  
and I. You try it.'

'No,' says Rollins, 'I have to be by the mule's  
head to order him.'

'Oh! yass,' says Harry. 'Then probably I'm  
the man! Wa'll I'll do it; but you are to bet ten  
against my five, if I risk it?'

'All right,' quoth the squire. 'Now, there is a  
fly on your shoulder. Stand still.' And Rollins  
adjusted the mule. 'Whist, Dick,' said he.

The mule raised his heels with such velocity and  
force that Simms rose in the air like a bird, and  
alighted on all-fours in a muddy ditch, bang up  
against a rail fence.

Rising, in a towering rage, he exclaimed:

'Yass, that is smart! I knew yer darned mule  
couldn't do it. You had that all put up. I wouldn't  
be kicked like that for fifty dollars. You can just  
fork over them are stakes for it any way.'

'Not so fast, Harry; Dick did just what I said  
he could; that is, kick a fly off a man without its  
hurting him. You see, the mule is not injured by  
the operation. However, if you are not satisfied,  
we will try it again as often as you wish.'

'The deuce take you,' growled Harry. 'I'd  
rather have a barn fall on me at once than have  
that critter kick me again. Keep the stakes, but  
don't say anything about it.'

And Harry Simms trudged on in bitterness of  
soul, murmuring to himself, 'Sold by thunder!  
and kicked by a mule!'

### BEWARE OF LAW!

To go to law is for two persons to kindle  
a fire at their own cost, to warm others, and  
sing themselves to cinders. A lawsuit is like a  
building—we cast up the cost in gross, and under-  
reckon it; but having begun, we are trailed along  
through several items, till we can neither bear the  
account nor leave off, though inclined to do so.  
The anxiety, the trouble the attendance, the haz-  
ard, checks, the vexatious delays, the surrepti-  
tious advantage taken of us, the hopes deferred,  
the falseness of pretending friends, the interest of  
parties, the negligence of agents, and the designs  
of ruin upon us, do put us upon a combat against  
all that can plague poor man; or else we must lie  
down, be trodden upon, be kicked, and die. So  
far, law may be compared to war—that it is a last  
resort, and ought never to be used but when all  
other means do fail.—Ex.

### A FEW LATE FLOWERS.

I send you enclosed in a little box a few of the  
late flowers I have now, September 16th, in bloom.  
The most brilliant bed I have on my place is the  
double Portulaca, and I think every plant in the  
bed is quite double. I must, however, have taken  
out about one-quarter of the plants as soon as the  
first flower appeared, and proved single. These I  
transplanted to a little vacant bed, and not one  
died; when they became older many of them  
proved good flowers.



My Perennial  
Peas, since the  
cooler weather,  
have flowered  
quite as much as  
in the early sum-  
mer, and are giv-  
ing masses of  
bloom. What a  
good hardy plant  
it is, and how  
beautiful! Every-  
body should have  
a few plants. I  
don't know how  
it is, but I find  
young plants a  
good distance  
from the old.  
Sometimes I think  
they come from  
pieces of the roots  
removed in weed-  
ing, for I found  
this fall one small  
plant in flower on  
a bed of decaying  
weeds and rub-  
bish in one cor-  
ner of my garden.  
The Annual  
Stocks are now in  
perfection. I find  
these do better, also, if the plants are a little  
late. They are not easily destroyed by cold. Last  
autumn I had fine flowers after a good deal of  
frost. The White Candytuft will bear hard frosts.  
I had it looking well in the garden until the 20th  
of November in Central Michigan.  
The Japan Pink I also find bears frost. . . .  
—DELLA, in Vick's Monthly Magazine.

In our opinion, there is nothing that enhances  
the beauty of a home so much as a neat and at-  
tractively arranged little flower garden. In our  
climate a collection of flowers can, with a little  
care, be so arranged that a fragrant perfume and  
an abundant bloom will be a source of pleasure  
nearly the whole year round. Flowers that will  
bear the frost, in Central Michigan, until the 20th  
of November, would be likely to last the whole  
winter in our Semi-Tropical climate. Those in  
the above article are fine flowers. A few other  
varieties could be added, such as the Columbine,  
Pansy, Dahlia, Zinnia, Aster, Chrysanthemum,  
Acroclium, Amaranth, Helichrysum, and any  
amount of others you might choose, to keep up a  
fine show the year round.